

**New Mexico - Tucumcari Field Office
FY 2006 Ranking Criteria Worksheet
Wildlife Habitat Improvement**

Applicant: _____ Date: _____ Total Points: 0
 Farm No.: _____ Tract No.: _____ CMS Field No's.: _____
 Tribal Land: _____ Non-Tribal Land: _____ Preliminary _____ Final _____

1. Natural Resources Criteria - 105 Potential Points (45%)

A. PLAYAS - Eligibility dependent upon playa verification	Potential Points	Benchmark Points	After Points
Deferment			
Yearlong	50		
July 15 thru April 15 - to create residual cover	30		
Nesting Season - April through September (Minimum)	20		
Longest straight-line diameter through playa bottom			
One point/100 feet - Maximum 15 points	15		
Surrounding Vegetation - dominant			
Native Grass	30		
CRP	20		
Cropland	10		
Surrounding Soil Erodibility Index			
220	2		
134	4		
86	6		
56	8		
48	10		
A. Playas	Total	0	
B. CENTER PIVOT SPRINKLER CORNERS	Potential Points	Benchmark Points	After Points
Vegetation			
Native Grass	20		
Native Grass with Shrub component	25		
Deferment			
Yearlong	10		
Nesting Season - April through September (Minimum)	5		
B. Cropland Corners	Total	0	

2. Conservation Practices - 60 Potential Points (25%)			
	Potential Points	Benchmark	After Points
Animal Wildlife: Inadequate Water			
Year-long Wildlife Water - Guzzler (648)	10		
Animal Wildlife: Inadequate Cover/Shelter			
Prescribed Grazing (528a) - Playa + Buffer 150 ft.	50		
Incentive Payment: Maximum 3 years, 320 acres maximum at \$100/acre - playa and buffer area, \$7.50/acre surrounding area			
Prescribed Grazing (528a) - Pivot Corners	10		
Incentive Payment: Maximum 3 years, 320 acres maximum at \$100/acre			
Range Planting (550)	10		
2. Conservation Practices	Total	0	
3. Other Considerations - 69 Potential Points (30%)			
	Potential Points	Benchmark	After Points
A. At risk species are in the area and the contract will enhance habitat for the species.	15	0	
B. Proximity to other Playas - Distance in feet to other playas. (10,000' - distance to nearest playa _____)/1000	10	0	
C. Treatment of this land could have a beneficial impact on a 303d listed stream segment.	12	0	
D. Treatment of this land could enhance the benefits of an active sec. 319 project.	12	0	
E. Proposed contracted area will be treated to eradicate and/or prevent infestation of Class A, Class B, and/or Class C noxious weeds, as designated by NMDA. (Points are only given to those practices that are included in NRCS standards and specifications.)	20	0	
3. Other Considerations	Total	0	
<p>NOTE: Hydric Soil must be present and certified by NRCS Soil Scientist to be eligible for playa program. Incentive payments available only for practices currently not being performed.</p>			
_____ Producer		_____ Date	
_____ Designated Conservationist		_____ Date	